

From: drupal_admin <drupal_admin@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 05, 2016 3:54 PM
To: HarborComments
Subject: Harbor Comments

Submitted on 09/05/2016 5:54PM

Submitted values are:

Your Name: (b) (6) Your Comments:
2 September, 2016

To the Honorable Ms. McCarthy,

My wife and I are writing in support of a thorough cleanup of the Willamette River Superfund site. We recently took a tour of the area and noticed a disturbing sight at the dock near where we boarded. Prominently placed, and in bold lettering a sign warned DO NOT EAT FISH FROM THE WILLAMETTE RIVER.

And of course further down the dock there were several people fishing.

Our understanding is that the current EPA proposal tackles just a small percentage of the toxic pollution that exists at the Superfund site. The draft cleanup plan relies on "monitored natural recovery," a "do nothing" strategy that leaves pollution in the river in the hopes that it will either be covered over or flushed downstream. This will leave far too much of the river contaminated for generations to come - the Audubon Society and Willamette Riverkeepers recommend that at least 1,000 acres of polluted sediment be removed from the river. And creating a toxic waste disposal dump in our river is not acceptable - toxic dredged sediments must be taken to an appropriate landfill.

Finally, entities with liability for the pollution must be held responsible and pay for a comprehensive cleanup. Companies including Exxon-Mobil, Chevron, Phillips 66, BNSF Railroad, Schnitzer Steel, and Northwest Natural benefited from use of the river, the very least in accountability is for them to pay for clean-up of the toxic mess.

In spite of the various warnings, people are eating from the river and recreating in the river. A wide variety of wildlife also depends on the river. The current condition of the river is unacceptable and needs to be cleaned. Several organizations have recommended adoption of "Alternative G" with enhancements to improve the long-term effectiveness of the cleanup. Specifically, the goal of the cleanup must be to end the Fish Consumption Advisory, for all individuals. This is our river, this is a reasonable approach.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)